

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 332

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to health professional shortage areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mr. ROBERTS introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to health professional shortage areas.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Health Professional
5 Shortage Area Amendments of 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION IN CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION AS**
7 **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA.**

8 (a) NUMBER OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS.—Section
9 332(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
10 245e(b)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
2 graph (C);

3 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
4 paragraph (D) and inserting “, and”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following subpara-
6 graph:

7 “(E) 20 percent or more of the population
8 being 65 years of age or older.”.

9 (b) RELEVANCE OF TRAVEL TIMES WITHIN FRON-
10 TIER AREAS.—Section 332(a) of the Public Health Service
11 Act (42 U.S.C. 245e(a)) is amended by adding at the end
12 the following new paragraph:

13 “(4) With respect to meeting the criteria under
14 paragraph (1)(A) for an area to be designated as a
15 health professional shortage area, the Secretary
16 shall, in the case of a frontier area, make the deter-
17 mination of whether the frontier area is a rational
18 area for the delivery of health services without re-
19 gard to—

20 “(A) the travel time between population
21 centers in the frontier area; or

22 “(B) the travel time to contiguous area re-
23 sources in the frontier area.”.

24 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1993, or upon

1 the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs
2 later.

3 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF ADDITIONAL PAYMENT UNDER MED-**
4 **ICARE FOR PHYSICIANS' SERVICES FUR-**
5 **NISHED IN FORMER SHORTAGE AREAS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(m) of the Social Se-
7 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(m)) is amended by striking
8 “area,” and inserting “area (or, in the case of an area
9 for which the designation as a health professional shortage
10 area under such section is withdrawn, in the case of physi-
11 cians’ services furnished to such an individual during the
12 3-year period beginning on the effective date of the with-
13 drawal of such designation),”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
15 subsection (a) shall apply to physicians’ services furnished
16 in an area for which the designation as a health profes-
17 sional shortage area under section 332(a)(1)(A) of the
18 Public Health Service Act is withdrawn on or after
19 January 1, 1994.

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